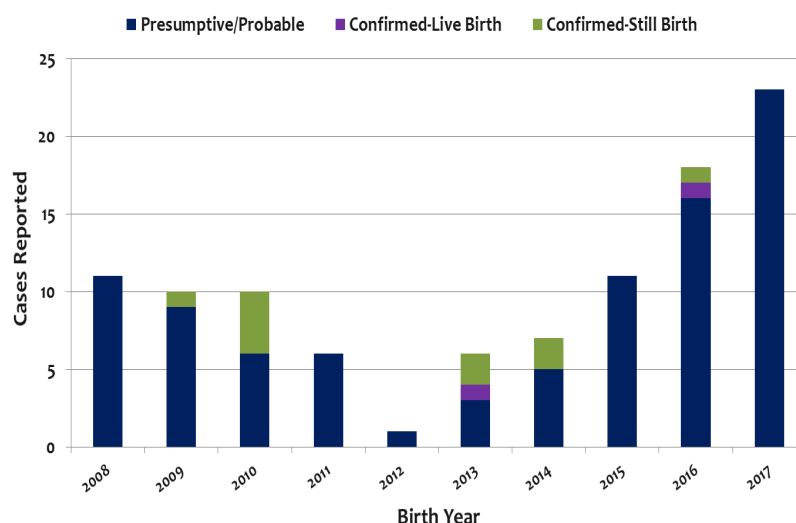


Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina Reported Syphilis Case Data, 2017

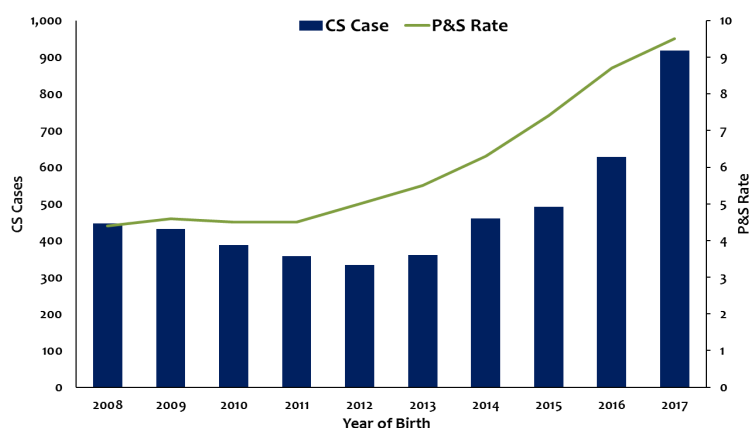


Syphilis and congenital syphilis is increasing in North Carolina

- Early syphilis (primary, secondary, and early latent) cases among women increased from 2012 to 2016, and congenital syphilis has also been increasing.
- There were 23 probable congenital syphilis cases (19.0 cases per 100,000 live births) reported in 2017. This is a 229% increase from 2014.
- Nationwide, there were 64 still births in 2017, up from 41 in 2016.



Syphilis and congenital syphilis is also increasing in the US



CS = congenital syphilis; P&S = primary and secondary syphilis.

- Nationally, congenital syphilis rates have been increasing since 2012. The national rate was 23.3 cases per 100,000 live births in 2017.
- Increases in congenital syphilis parallel increases in primary and secondary syphilis among women during 2012 –2017 (see figure on left). *

*[CDC. 2017 STD Surveillance Report](#)

Congenital syphilis is preventable!

Among women with syphilis who gave birth to an infant with congenital syphilis in North Carolina in 2017:

- Although most mothers accessed some prenatal care, none of the mothers had full screening for syphilis, as indicated by North Carolina testing requirements.
- 60% of mothers were infected during pregnancy, emphasizing the importance of full syphilis screening during pregnancy.
- Mothers AND their partners must be treated to prevent reinfection.



Want More Information?

HIV/STD Facts and Figures web site:
<https://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/stds/figures.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Fact Sheets on Congenital Syphilis:
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-congenital-syphilis.htm>

Data Source:

North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of July 20, 2018) and NC vital statistics for 2016 (data as of October 16, 2017).

Contact Us

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 *Revised 11/9/2018

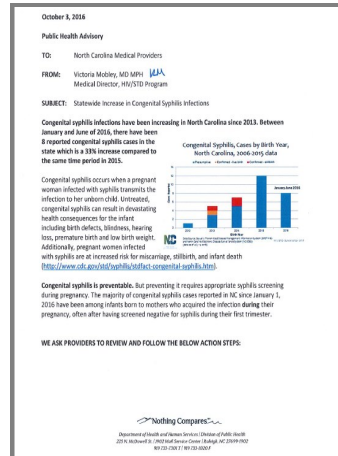
Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina Reported Syphilis Case Data, 2017



What is North Carolina doing to decrease babies born with congenital syphilis?

- Program alerts are sent out to medical providers as new information is available.
- State and local health departments are collaborating to increase awareness among the community and clinical providers.
- More information about testing for syphilis among pregnant women and newborns born to women infected with syphilis can be accessed at: [North Carolina testing requirements](#)

Program Alert Example



What CLINICIANS can do

- Ensure that ALL pregnant women receive full syphilis screening (first prenatal visit, between 28-30 weeks gestation, and at delivery).
 - ◇ Perform a thorough sexual health and risk assessment at every prenatal visit.
 - ◇ Testing for syphilis during first and third trimesters allows the mother to be treated prior to birth and can prevent congenital syphilis.
 - ◇ Testing at delivery ensures that all potential congenital syphilis infections are identified and treated appropriately.
 - ◇ Newborns should not be discharged from the hospital until the serologic status of the mother is known.
 - ◇ Treat all sexual partners of pregnant women diagnosed with syphilis to prevent re-infection.
- For clinical questions, refer to the STD Clinical Consultation line: <https://www.stdccn.org/>
- For provider training resources, refer to the National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers: <http://nnptc.org/>

What YOU can do

- If you are sexually active make sure your care provider is offering you regular screening for all STDs.
- If you are diagnosed with syphilis, notify your sexual partners of the need to seek testing and treatment.

Recommendations from the CDC 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines for Congenital Syphilis:

- Penicillin is the only acceptable treatment of syphilis in pregnant women.
- Therefore, women with penicillin allergies should be desensitized and treated with penicillin.

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*Revised 11/9/2018